

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Film Director Shirak Khojayan to Screen
Apricot, Blessed Tree of Armenia
And
Aragil, the White Stork**

GLENDAL, CA Award winning film director Shirak Khojayan will screen his two documentary films *Apricot, Blessed Tree of Armenia* and *Aragil, the White Stork* on Thursday, September 11, 2014, at 7pm at the Glendale Central Library Auditorium, 222 East Harvard Street in Glendale. Admission is free. The film is in English. Library visitors receive 3 hours FREE parking across the street at The Market Place parking structure with validation at the Loan Desk. The program is sponsored by the Library, Arts & Culture Department.

Apricot, Blessed Tree of Armenia is a 30-minute documentary produced in 2014. While the origin of the apricot is disputed, it was known in Armenia during ancient times and has been cultivated there for so long; it is often thought to have originated there. Its scientific name *Prunus Armeniaca* (Armenian plum) derives from that assumption. Three thousand year old apricot cores were discovered in the ruins of Garni, thirty miles from the capital of Yerevan. There are 150 varieties of apricots in Armenia.

Aragil, The White Stork is a 30-minute documentary produced in 2011. The film is about the life of the white stork and its relationship with the people of Armenia. Shot in HD, it describes the White Stork, its habitat and the efforts of the American University of Armenia in protecting the life of the White Stork in Armenia. They referenced over 1000 nests by numbering each one, and studied their migrating habits to Africa during the winter.

Shirak Khojayan is an Armenian American documentary film director who has produced two documentaries, *Apricot, Blessed Tree of Armenia* and *Aragil, the White Stork*. He has also edited several Hollywood feature films including *The Norseman*, *Sacred Ground*, *The Legend of Boggy Creek 2*.

###

CONTACT: Elizabeth Grigorian, Glendale Library, Arts & Culture Department at egrigorian@glendaleca.gov or call (818) 548-3288.